

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 IO-13 /087 W  
-----118662 290252Z /65

R 281220Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3087  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMCONSUL KARACHI  
AMCONSUL LAHORE  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, PK  
SUBJECT: POLITICAL SITUATION

1. THE NUMBER OF TRIALS AND INQUIRIES INTO THE ACTIVITIES  
OF FORMER PM BHUTTO AND HIS COLLEAGUES CONTINUES TO SNOWBALL.  
THIS WEEK THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE PINDI BAR ASSOCIATION FILED SUIT

AGAINST BHUTTO, MUSTAFA KHAR, AND PPP SECRETARY  
GENERAL DR. GHULAM HUSSEIN CHARGING THAT THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE  
FOR THE DISRUPTION OF AN OPPOSITION RALLY IN PINDI IN  
MARCH 1973. ANOTHER SUIT AGAINST BHUTTO AND SOME OF HIS  
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CLOSEST ASSOCIATES REPORTEDLY ACCUSES THE FORMER PM OF  
MISAPPROPRIATING FIFTY BILLION RUPEES (APPROXIMATELY  
\$500 MILLION) OVER THE COURSE OF HIS ADMINISTRATION. A  
CASE WHICH IS NOT AIMED AT BHUTTO HIMSELF BUT CAN ONLY  
HAVE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR HIM HAS BEEN FILED IN  
LAHORE AGAINST SADIQ HUSSAIN QUERESHI, FORMER CHIEF MINISTER  
OF THE PUNJAB, BY A POLITICAL RIVAL AND WOULD BE OPPONENT

IN THE MARCH ELECTIONS. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE PLAINTIFF CONTENTS THAT QUERESHI PREVENTED HIM FROM FILING AS A CANDIDATE IN THE ELECTIONS BY ABDUCTING AND BEATING THE MEN WHO TRIED TO PRESENT HIS PAPERS.

2. AN INQUIRY INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF FORMER FEDERAL RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER KAUSAR NIAZI HAS REPORTEDLY BEEN UNDERTAKEN BY THE MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATION (MLA). THE INVESTIGATION CENTERS ON CHARGES THAT NIAZI SOLD THE RIGHTS TO A RELIGIOUS BOOK HE WROTE TO THE MINISTRY FOR RS. 500,000 (APPROXIMATELY \$50,000). PAYMENT WAS STOPPED FOLLOWING THE ARMY TAKE-OVER.

3. NOW THAT GENERAL ZIA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE POLITICAL LEADERS WILL BE RELEASED IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO, THERE IS FEAR THAT CLASHES BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES MIGHT START AGAIN. TO HELP FORSTALL THIS THE MLA REPORTEDLY WILL FLY THE VARIOUS LEADERS FROM MURREE TO THEIR HOMES BY HELICOPTER AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE TO TO AVOID BIG WELCOME PARTIES AT AIRPORTS AND RAILWAY STATIONS. ACCORDING TO RECENT PRESS REPORTS, LARGE CROWDS HAD GATHERED AT RAILWAY STATIONS IN RAWALPINDI AND GUJRANWALA WHEN IT WAS ERRONEOUSLY THOUGHT ON JULY 26 THAT BHUTTO HAD BEEN SET FREE AND WAS GOING TO TRAVEL TO LAHORE BY TRAIN. THE GUJRANWALA CROWD WAS DISPERSED BY A POLICE LATHI CHARGE. SIMILAR CROWDS RECENTLY COLLECTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHEN BHUTTO'S DAUGHTER BENAZIR AND PNA LEADER CHAUDHRY ZAHUR ELAHI VISITED LAHORE.

4. ON JULY 27, THE SAME DAY THAT ZIA ADDRESSED THE NATION, THE MLA ISSUED A TIGHT NEW REGULATION BANNING PROPAGATION OF ANY OPINION OR ACTION PREJUDICIAL TO THE INTEGRITY OR SECURITY OF PAKISTAN OR THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH MARTIAL LAW HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED. KEY POINTS OF THE REGULATION, CONTRAVENTION OF WHICH IS PUNISHABLE BY A FINE, WHIPPING OR SEVEN YEARS RIGOROUS IMPRISONMENT, ARE:

- POLITICAL PARTIES OR PERSONS ARE FORBIDDEN FROM USING VIOLENCE, OR THREAT OF INJURY OR BRIBES TO GAIN POLITICAL SUPPORT,
- "SEDUCING" PUBLIC SERVANTS FROM THEIR DUTY OR SUBJECTING THE MEDIA TO POLITICAL PRESSURE IS FORBIDDEN,
- INTERFERENCE WITH A POLITICAL PARTY OR ITS MEMBERS AND UNFAIR CRITICISM IS BANNED,
- NO POLITICAL PARTY OR PERSON IS ALLOWED TO OBSTRUCT, HINDER OR PROPAGATE AGAINST HOLDING ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER,
- INCITING TO VIOLENCE, CREATING RELIGIOUS OR SECTARIAN HATRED, DAMAGING PROPERTY AND OBSTRUCTING POLITICAL MEETINGS IS BANNED,

--CARRYING ARMS AT PUBLIC MEETINGS IS BANNED.  
ARMED WITH THESE POWERS THE ARMY SHOULD BE IN A STRONG  
POSITION TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION AGAINST ANY VIOLENCE OR  
DISRUPTIVE POLITICAL ACTIVITY THAT MAY RESULT DURING THE  
ELECTION CAMPAIGN.  
HUMMEL

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## Message Attributes

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